News Release

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Ka`iulani Murphy sworn in as new KIRC Commissioner

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission today announced Ka`iulani Murphy has taken the oath of office as the new KIRC Commissioner.

Commissioner Murphy was nominated by the Polynesian Voyaging Society and appointed by the Honorable Governor Linda Lingle to represent Native Hawaiian Organizations on the seven-person State of Hawaii commission that oversees the management of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve. The Kaho`olawe Island Reserve includes the island of Kaho`olawe and the submerged lands and waters extending seaward two-miles from its shoreline.

A graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Commissioner Murphy brings her expertise in Hawaiian cultural traditions as one of the youngest and most promising traditional navigators in Hawaii. As part of the next generation of traditional Hawaiian navigators, Commissioner Murphy's training is in alignment with the KIRC's strategic goals of establishing a traditional Hawaiian navigation field school on Kaho'olawe and restoring archaeological and cultural sites relating to traditional way finding.